

LOG OF MEETING

SUBJECT: Smoke Detectors, Long-Life

DATE: February 8, 1996

PLACE: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Bethesda, MD

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Julius Cirin and Ian D. Irving, Ultralife Batteries, Inc.

COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Julie Ayres, Lab Sciences
Rikki Khanna, Engineering Sciences
Mai Ngo, Engineering Sciences
James F. Hoebel, Engineering Sciences

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: James F. Hoebel

SUMMARY:

Ultralife manufactures a new long life battery for use in conventional single-station smoke detectors. The purpose of the meeting was for Ultralife personnel to inform CPSC staff of the development and performance of this product.

The battery is based on lithium technology. The company acquired the assets of Kodak in this product area in 1991, and improved on the technology and manufacturing capabilities in order to produce a reliable product. They went "on-line" in 1992, and now have a highly automated process. The 9-volt battery will last ten years under normal circumstances, and is directly replaceable for conventional 9-volt batteries in conventional smoke detectors, thereby creating a 10-year smoke detector. At least two detector manufacturers now market a 10 year detector using the Ultralife battery. Others now privately label such a battery, made by Ultralife. The battery is "environmentally friendly", and there have been no field problems reported.

Data from accelerated testing of the battery (alone) was provided, that demonstrate the long life of the product.

no objections
11/14/96
Firm has not requested further notice